

SCOTT SCHWAB
Secretary of State



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STATE OF KANSAS

April 27, 2020

Kinza Ghaznavi, Grants Manager
U.S. Election Assistance Commission
1335 East-West Highway, Suite 4300
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Ms. Ghaznavi,

This letter serves as the narrative for the state of Kansas as it relates to the expenditure of 2020 HAVA Election Security Grants. This narrative serves as a guide for how the election security grants may be used during the five-year budget cycle.

The funds will be allocated as follows:

- 1) VOTER REGISTRATION SYSTEMS** – Funds will be used during the course of the program to enhance the security of the statewide voter registration system. In particular, this will be done by increasing the security in each of the 105 counties by upgrading equipment, hardening access points, and other security measures in each county. This will be done in conjunction with the state’s vendor for the system, third party vendors as well as state and local county officials.
- 2) CYBER-SECURITY** – Funds will be used to increase and supplement cyber-security efforts at all levels of election administration. The state will supplement existing staff with dedicated security experts who are outside of state or local government and bring different perspectives and skill sets. Additional monitoring, testing and implementing of new strategies that will develop between now and the end of the five years are also included in this budget. Assuming there will be advances that are not yet known, Kansas will set aside some money for to-be-determined improvements in the latter years of the five-year budget cycle. Funds will be expended to upgrade and supplement existing security resources as well as regular training for county election and IT personnel.
- 3) COMMUNICATION** – Funds will be made available to create, maintain, and train local election officials on an enhanced communications plan. This plan will center on how to develop a continuity of operations plan, as well as partner with national, state and local partners including DHS, the FBI, the Kansas Bureau of Investigation and government leaders.

It is important to note this is a one-time infusion of HAVA funds to address specific areas of election infrastructure. This plan will address many current issues facing election administrators. However, as the cyber landscape changes rapidly, many jurisdictions may not have the ability to continue to adapt and secure elections after the expenditure of these funds.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Scott Schwab".

Scott Schwab
Kansas Secretary of State